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**Letter dated 20 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 20 February 2001 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning a statement made by a spokesman for the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence affirming that the six United Kingdom aircraft which took part in the attack against Iraq had taken off from Kuwait and returned to their bases in that country, thereby demonstrating that the Saudi and Kuwaiti Governments support the ongoing acts of aggression against Iraq.

The Minister urges you, once more, to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by bringing an immediate halt to this aggression and ensuring that the aggressors bear full responsibility for it.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. Al Douri
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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## Annex to the letter dated 20 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my letter to you of 17 February 2001 concerning the new and iniquitous act of aggression carried out against Iraq by the United States of America and the United Kingdom on 16 February 2001 (S/2001/146, annex), I referred to the fact that this act of aggression had been launched from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, making Saudi Arabia and Kuwait key partners in it, so that they bear international responsibility for it under international law. I should like to draw your attention and the attention of the international community to new evidence in this regard.

On 17 February 2001 the Cable News Network company (CNN) broadcast a report by its London correspondent, Christiane Amanpour, in which a spokesman for the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence was quoted as saying that the six United Kingdom aircraft that took part in the attack against Iraq had taken off from Kuwait and returned to their bases in that country after committing an act of aggression against Baghdad.

This statement offers additional concrete evidence that the United States of America and the United Kingdom are using Kuwaiti and Saudi territory to launch attacks against Iraq, and that the Saudi and Kuwaiti Governments are offering financial and logistic support for acts of aggression that have been continuously perpetrated against Iraq over the last 10 years.

Iraq reaffirms its legitimate and inherent right of self-defence under Article 51 of the Charter and its inherent right under international law to compensation for the damage, in both human and material terms, that is caused by these ongoing acts of aggression. It urges you, once more, to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by bringing an immediate halt to the aggression and ensuring that the aggressors bear full responsibility for it under law.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq